

VI. Ministry Series: The Baptism With the Holy Spirit

1. **The baptism with the Holy Spirit is similar to receiving Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, yet also different. How is it similar? How is it different?**
 - a. The baptism with the Holy Spirit is similar to receiving Christ, for in both experiences the believer receives the Holy Spirit. Every believer has the spirit of Christ:
Romans 8:9 ...now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.
 - b. The difference between receiving Christ's Spirit upon salvation and being baptized with the Holy Spirit is a difference of **degree**. When a person is baptized with the Holy Spirit, there is greater degree of surrender on the part of the person, and a greater degree of being filled with God's presence and power.
Acts 1:8 [Jesus said,] "but you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me..."

2. **How do we know that the baptism of the Holy Spirit is a separate experience from receiving Christ as Lord and Savior?**
 - a. Jesus commanded believers who had already confessed Him as Lord and Savior to be filled with the Holy Spirit. We know that the disciples were believers, and had the Spirit of Christ, for Jesus breathed the Holy Spirit upon them after His resurrection:
John 20:22 And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit." But even after this Jesus commanded them to wait for a further experience:
Luke 24:49 [Jesus said,] "Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high."
Acts 1:4-5 And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, "which," He said, "you have heard from Me; for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."
 - b. There are other instances in scripture (in Acts chapters 8 and 19) where believers are baptized with the Holy Spirit some time after they received Christ:
Acts 8:14-17 Now when the apostles who were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, who when they had come down, prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit. For as yet He had fallen upon none of them. They had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.
Acts 19:2-6 And [Paul] said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" So they said to him, "We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit...When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied." See also Apollos, Acts 18:24-26

3. **Know at least five reasons for asking God to baptize you with His Holy Spirit.**
 - a. We are commanded to be filled with the Holy Spirit.
Ephesians 5:18 ...be filled with the Spirit "Be filled" in this verse is translated from the Greek present continuous tense, "Be being (continually) filled with the Spirit".
 - b. Jesus was filled with the Holy Spirit, leaving us an example to follow, *Matt. 3:16;*
Mark 1:10; John 1:32-33
 - c. By being filled with the Holy Spirit we receive greater power to be witnesses for Christ. Notice that the early disciples were told not to go out until they had received the Holy Spirit!

Luke 24:49 [Jesus said,] "...but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high"

Acts 1:4 ...He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father...

John 15:26 "But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of Truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me."

>>>Compare Peter before and after he was filled with the Holy Spirit, Luke 22:54-62; Acts 2:14-40.

>>>See also Acts 4:31, 33; Paul, Acts 18:5; Romans 15:19; 1 Cor. 2:4-5.

- d. When we are witnessing, teaching or preaching, the Holy Spirit brings things to our remembrance, enabling us to know what to say next, John 14:26.
- e. When we are testifying, the Holy Spirit convicts our listeners, John 16:8.
- f. With the infilling of the Holy Spirit comes power to live a holy life, John 14:16-17; Romans 8; 1 Cor. 6:11; 2 Cor. 3:17-18; Eph. 3:16-20; 5:9; 2 Thess. 2:13; 1 Peter 1:2, 22.
- g. By the Holy Spirit we are filled with love, Rom. 5:5; hope, Rom. 15:13; righteousness, peace and joy, Rom. 14:17; wisdom, Eph. 1:17; and all the fruit of the Spirit, Gal. 5:22-23
- h. The Holy Spirit is our Teacher who teaches us the things of God, and guides us into all truth, John 14:26; 16:13-14; 1 Cor. 2:12; 1 John 2:20, 27; Peter, Acts 10:10-16; 11:4-18
- i. The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Truth, who enables us to discern between what is true and what is not, John 14:17; 1 Cor. 12:10.
- j. Spiritual gifts are given to believers by the Holy Spirit for the good of everyone, 1 Cor. 12:7-25; 14:12.
- k. Believers who are walking in the Holy Spirit are much more able to hear God's voice, and to know His will in a given situation, Romans 8:14; Philip, Acts 8:29.
- l. In times of persecution, the Holy Spirit will tell us what to say, Matt. 10:19-20; Luke 12:11-12; 21:14-15. For example, Peter, Acts 4:8-13; Stephen, Acts 6:10.
- m. By the Holy Spirit we are able to prophesy, John 16:13; Acts 2:18; example, Agabus, Acts 11:28; Paul, Acts 16:6-10.
- n. By the Holy Spirit we are directed in prayer, Romans 8:26-27; 15:30; Eph. 6:18.
- o. The Holy Spirit seals us, and tells us we are sons and daughters of God, 1 John 3:24; 2 Cor. 1:22; Eph. 1:13; 4:30.

4. What five steps help when praying for God to fill you with His Holy Spirit?

- a. Be convinced that God wants to fill you with the Holy Spirit. Look up the scriptures, read, study. The Holy Spirit comes by faith, which comes by hearing the word of God, Galatians 3:2, 14; Romans 10:17.
- b. Be clean. A holy God requires a clean heart, always. Psalm 66:18; 1 Peter 1:15.
- c. Offer yourself as a living sacrifice. This means saying to God that you are willing to be His servant, to serve Him in whatever way He wants, however He wants, wherever He wants, whenever He wants. See Romans 12:1.
- d. In Jesus' name, ask God to fill you with His Holy Spirit. Believe that He will. Luke 11:13; Gal. 3:2.
- e. Thank God, praise Him. God asked you to be filled with the Holy Spirit, and since you have asked Him to fill you, He is doing it. Continue to thank Him every time you come to Him, asking Him to fill you continually as Eph. 5:18 directs.

5. Know five scripture references you can use to teach others about the Holy Spirit.

- a. Believers are commanded to be Spirit filled, Luke 24:49; Acts 1:4-5, 8; Eph. 5:18.
- b. Jesus tells us about the ministry of the Holy Spirit: John 14:16-18, 26; John 16:13.